

A N N U A L R E P O R T .
~~~~~

O F    T H E  
~~~~~

M E D I C A L O F F I C E R O F H E A L T H .
~~~~~

F O R    T H E  
~~~~~

R U R A L D I S T R I C T O F H O L Y W E L L .
~~~~~

F O R    T H E    Y E A R

1946.

~~~~~  

~~~~~



# HOLYWELL RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL.

## MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH'S REPORT.

To:

The Chairman and Members of the Holywell Rural District Council.

Gentlemen,

I present my Annual report for the year ending December 31st, 1946.

### Social conditions including chief industries.

Agriculture is the chief industry of the area, there is also coal and lead mining, stone and lime quarrying.

In adjoining areas large silk and iron works provide employment for a large percentage of the employed workers of this area.

|                                       |            |
|---------------------------------------|------------|
| Area in acres                         | 58,550.    |
| Population (estimated middle of 1946) | 21,270:    |
| Number of inhabited houses.           | 7,094:     |
| Rateable value.                       | £82,604.   |
| Sum representing 1d rate.             | £313:14:3. |

### VITAL STATISTICS.

| <u>LIVE BIRTHS.</u>  | <u>Total.</u> | <u>M.</u> | <u>F.</u>   |                               |
|----------------------|---------------|-----------|-------------|-------------------------------|
|                      | 366.          | 177.      | 189.        | Birth rate per 1,000          |
| Legitimate.          | 162           | 184       | (estimated) | population 17.2               |
| Illegitimate.        | 15            | 5         |             |                               |
| <u>STILL BIRTHS.</u> | 13            | 5         | 8           |                               |
| Legitimate.          | 5             | 7         |             | Rate per 1,000 (live & still  |
| Illegitimate.        |               | 1         |             | births 17.81.                 |
| <u>DEATHS.</u>       | 262           | 133       | 129         | Death rate per 1,000          |
|                      |               |           |             | (estimated) population 12.31. |

Deaths from Puerperal sepsis nil  
 " " other puerperal causes. nil.

### DEATH RATE OF INFANTS UNDER ONE YEAR OF AGE.

|                                                      | <u>Total.</u> | <u>M.</u> | <u>F.</u> |
|------------------------------------------------------|---------------|-----------|-----------|
| Legitimate.                                          | 16.           | 10.       | 6.        |
| Illegitimate.                                        | 1.            | 1.        |           |
|                                                      | 17.           | 11.       | 6.        |
| All infants per 1,000 live births.                   |               |           | 46.       |
| Legitimate infants per 1,000 legitimate live births. |               |           | 43.       |
| Illegitimate " " " illegitimate live births.         |               |           | 50.       |
| Deaths from Cancer (all ages)                        |               |           | 1.92.     |
| " " Measles " "                                      |               |           | Nil.      |
| " " Whooping Cough (all ages).                       |               |           | Nil.      |
| " " Diarrhoea (under 2 years).                       |               |           | Nil.      |

| <u>DEATHS.</u>                            | M.          | F.          |
|-------------------------------------------|-------------|-------------|
| Tuberculosis of respiratory system.       | 3.          | 6.          |
| Other forms of tuberculosis.              |             | 1.          |
| Influenza.                                |             | 1.          |
| Cancer of buccal cavity & Oesophagus (M)  | 2.          |             |
| Cancer of the Uterus (F)                  |             | 1.          |
| Cancer of stomach and duodenum.           | 7.          | 5.          |
| Cancer of Breast.                         |             | 1.          |
| Cancer of all other sites.                | 15.         | 10.         |
| Diabetes.                                 |             | 4.          |
| Intracranial vascular lesions.            | 11.         | 20.         |
| Heart disease.                            | 39.         | 32.         |
| Other diseases of the circulatory system. | 5.          | 1.          |
| Bronchitis.                               | 7.          | 10.         |
| Pneumonia.                                | 7.          | 6.          |
| Other respiratory diseases.               | 2.          |             |
| Ulcer of stomach or duodenum.             | 3.          | 1.          |
| Appendicitis.                             |             | 1.          |
| Other digestive diseases.                 | 4.          | 1.          |
| Nephritis.                                | 5.          | 2.          |
| Premature Birth.                          | 6.          | 2.          |
| Congenital malformation birth injury.     |             | 2.          |
| Suicide.                                  | 1.          | 1.          |
| Road traffic accident.                    | 4.          |             |
| Other violent causes.                     | 4.          | 1.          |
| All other causes.                         | 8.          | 20.         |
|                                           | <u>133.</u> | <u>129.</u> |

#### SECTION B.

##### GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES IN THE AREA.

##### PUBLIC HEALTH OFFICERS OF THE AUTHORITY.

- (a) MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH (part time).  
I. Philippine Nelis, L.R.C.P. & S.I., D.P.H.
- (b) SANITARY INSPECTORS (whole time).  
D.O. Meredith Jones, C.R.S.I., M.S.I.A.  
F.G. Perry, C.R.S.I.  
J.D. Miles, C.R.S.I.
- (c) R.G. Murdoch, A.M.I.C.E., M. Inst. & City E.,  
A.M.T.P.I., A.M.I. Struct. E.  
L. Darrell, A.M. & Mun. E.

##### (a) LABORATORY FACILITIES.

Carried out by Emergency Public Health Laboratory Service, Conway.

##### (b) AMBULANCE FACILITIES.

There is no ambulance.

##### (c) NURSING IN THE HOME.

Voluntary organisations provide existing facilities.

##### (d) TREATMENT CENTRES & CLINICS.

Administered by Flintshire County Council.

##### (e) HOSPITAL.

There is no hospital in the area:-  
For infectious diseases there is a  
Joint Hospital Board to which all  
the constituent districts subscribe.

## SECTION C.

### SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA.

(i) The water of the Council's area of supply and its several parts has in general been satisfactory in quantity.

Low pressure was experienced at the Lower Gronant end of the coastal main from the Garth source due largely to the high consumption along this main during the summer months.

Certain lengths of small diameter mains which had become encrusted have been renewed and further lengths are included in the Council's programme for the year 1947-48. Great difficulty has been experienced in obtaining new pipes.

The water supply of the area and its several parts has in general been satisfactory in quality.

(ii) Bacteriological Analyses of sixteen samples of raw water have been made, eleven of which were satisfactory, one unsatisfactory and four suspicious.

(iii) The supplies are not liable to have plumbo- solvent action.

(iv) Some contamination has occurred in the supplies from Caerwys, Llwyn-erddyn Well, Glyn Well, Garth and Ffynnon Wen, Mostyn.

Llwyn-erddyn Well, Glyn Well and Caerwys Reservoir were properly cleaned and the water from the Garth and Mostyn supplies has been dosed with chloros. It is proposed to supply water from the Council's mains in lieu of that from Ffynnon Wen.

(v) (a) Direct to houses.

| <u>No. of houses.</u> | <u>Population.</u> | (estimated). |
|-----------------------|--------------------|--------------|
| 3,824.                | 11,472.            |              |

(b) Standpipe Supply.

| <u>No. of houses.</u> | <u>Population.</u> | (estimated). |
|-----------------------|--------------------|--------------|
| 2,419.                | 7,257.             |              |

The above figures include premises supplied by the three statutory companies operating within the Rural District.



### Milk Supply, Cowsheds and Dairies.

The majority of cowsheds and dairies in the district were inspected during the year.

Improvements have been made to a number of cowsheds during the year particularly in relation to lighting, ventilation and drainage.

### Public Cleansing.

Refuse disposal for the whole area is undertaken by the Council. The work is carried out by means of contracts and for this purpose the Council's area is divided up into 15 separate districts.

Shortage of labour has added to the difficulties of maintaining an efficient cleansing service.

The difficult labour situation is such that the Contractor for the Brynford area undertakes the refuse collection for Mostyn, Caerwys and Rhydymwyn. The Contractor for Newmarket and Gwaenyssgor, also does Ffynnongroew and Gronant districts, and the Contractor for Gwernymynydd covers the Gwernafield and Pantymwyn districts.

Generally the work was done satisfactorily.

### Rivers and Streams.

No complaints of any pollution of rivers and streams were received.

### Shops Inspection.

All shops in the area were regularly inspected and the statutory provisions relating thereto enforced.

### Camping Sites.

All licensed camping sites were visited regularly. In some cases it was found necessary to draw the owners attention to unsatisfactory supervision. No difficulty was experienced in having the improvements put into effect.

### Smoke Abatement.

No complaints were received during the year.

### Eradication of Bed Bugs.

No case of bug infestation was found during the year.

### Schools.

All schools in the area are periodically visited. The water supply and the sanitary arrangements are the chief subjects of the department's attention.

### HOUSING.

#### Section D.

A considerable amount of time of the department was spent in housing inspection.

It was found very difficult to have repair works carried out owing to the extreme shortage of labour. The shortage of material has also had an adverse effect upon the situation.

Section E.

Inspection and Supervision of Food.

Inspection of cowsheds and dairies are regularly undertaken during the course of the year a number of cowsheds were improved and brought up to a reasonable standard of repair.

MEAT                      INSPECTION:  
-----

| Cattle<br>Excluding<br>Cows.                                          | Cows. | Sheep &<br>Lambs. | Pigs. | Calves. |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------------|-------|-------------------|-------|---------|
| Number Inspected. 466                                                 | 162   | 6,148             | 20    | 422     |
| All animals<br>except Tuberculosis<br>Whole carcasses 6<br>condemned. | 9     | 10                | 1     | 8       |
| Carcases of which<br>some part or organ 120<br>was condemned.         |       | 152               |       |         |
| Tuberculosis only.<br>Whole carcasses 9<br>condemned.                 | 8     |                   |       | 2       |
| Carcases of which<br>some part or organ 62<br>was condemned.          | 23    |                   |       |         |

## SECTION F.

INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

| Under<br>Age Periods. | 1. 1. 2. 3. 4. 5. 10. 15. 20. 35. 45. 65. Total. |    |    |    |    |     |     |     |     |     |     | Deaths<br>sent to<br>hospital. | Rate.         |
|-----------------------|--------------------------------------------------|----|----|----|----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|--------------------------------|---------------|
|                       | 1.                                               | 1. | 2. | 3. | 4. | 5.  | 10. | 15. | 20. | 35. | 45. | 65.                            | Total.        |
| Scarlet Fever.        |                                                  |    | 1. | 1. | 5. | 26. | 15. | 3.  | 5.  |     |     |                                | 52.           |
| Diphtheria.           |                                                  |    |    |    |    | 1.  | 2.  |     |     |     | 1.  |                                | 4.            |
| Cerebro Spinal Fever. |                                                  |    |    |    |    | 1.  |     |     |     |     |     |                                | 1.            |
| Poliomyelitis.        |                                                  |    |    |    |    |     |     |     |     |     | 1.  |                                | 1.            |
| Bacillary dysentery.  |                                                  |    |    |    |    |     |     |     | 1.  |     |     |                                | 1.            |
| Enteric fever.        |                                                  |    |    |    |    |     |     |     | 2.  |     |     |                                | 2.            |
| Measles.              | 4.                                               | 2. | 2. |    |    | 2.  |     |     | 3.  | 1.  | 3.  | 2.                             | 6.            |
| Whooping Cough.       | 2.                                               | 1. | 5. | 5. |    | 17. | 1.  |     |     | 8.  | 15. |                                | 35.           |
|                       | 1.                                               |    |    |    |    | 2.  |     |     |     |     |     |                                | 27.           |
|                       |                                                  |    |    |    |    |     |     |     |     |     |     |                                | 3.            |
|                       |                                                  |    |    |    |    |     |     |     |     |     |     |                                | 132.          |
|                       |                                                  |    |    |    |    |     |     |     |     |     |     |                                | 45.           |
|                       |                                                  |    |    |    |    |     |     |     |     |     |     |                                | 15.           |
|                       |                                                  |    |    |    |    |     |     |     |     |     |     |                                | 0.28.         |
|                       |                                                  |    |    |    |    |     |     |     |     |     |     |                                | 1.64.         |
|                       |                                                  |    |    |    |    |     |     |     |     |     |     |                                | 1.26.         |
|                       |                                                  |    |    |    |    |     |     |     |     |     |     |                                | 0.13.         |
|                       |                                                  |    |    |    |    |     |     |     |     |     |     |                                | 5.54.         |
|                       |                                                  |    |    |    |    |     |     |     |     |     |     |                                | per 1,000     |
|                       |                                                  |    |    |    |    |     |     |     |     |     |     |                                | (live & still |
|                       |                                                  |    |    |    |    |     |     |     |     |     |     |                                | births        |

The cases of Scarlet Fever, spread over the whole year, the ages ranging from 2 to 20 years, were of a mild type. There were no deaths.

The 4 cases of diphtheria, ages from 5 to 62 years had not been immunised.

IMMUNISATION.

|                                         | Under 5. | 5 to 14. | Total. |
|-----------------------------------------|----------|----------|--------|
| Estimated child population in the area. |          |          |        |
| January 1st to December 31st, 1946.     | 1,358.   | 3,232.   | 4,590. |
| Number of children immunised between    |          |          |        |
| January 1st and December, 31st, 1946.   | 110.     | 7.       | 117.   |



OPHTHALMIA NEONATORUM.

| Cases<br>Notified. | Treatment<br>at home. | In<br>Hospital. | Vision<br>Impaired. | Vision<br>Unimpaired. | Total.<br>Blindness. |
|--------------------|-----------------------|-----------------|---------------------|-----------------------|----------------------|
| 1                  | 1                     | -               | -                   | -                     | -                    |

Rate 2.73 per 1,000 live births.

TUBERCULOSIS.

| Ages.    | New Cases.   |                  |              |                  | Deaths.      |                  |              |                  |
|----------|--------------|------------------|--------------|------------------|--------------|------------------|--------------|------------------|
|          | Respiratory. | Non-Respiratory. | Respiratory. | Non-Respiratory. | Respiratory. | Non-Respiratory. | Respiratory. | Non-Respiratory. |
|          | M.           | F.               | M.           | F.               | M.           | F.               | M.           | F.               |
| 0        |              |                  |              | 1.               |              |                  |              | 1.               |
| 1        |              |                  | 2.           |                  |              |                  |              |                  |
| 5        | 1.           | 1.               | 2.           | 1.               |              |                  |              |                  |
| 15       | 2.           | 3.               | 1.           |                  |              | 2.               |              |                  |
| 25       |              | 4.               |              | 1.               |              | 1.               |              |                  |
| 35       | 2.           | 1.               | 1.           |                  |              | 2.               |              |                  |
| 45       | 5.           |                  |              |                  | 1.           |                  |              |                  |
| 55       | 3.           | 1.               |              |                  | 1.           |                  |              |                  |
| 65       |              |                  |              |                  | 1.           | 1.               |              |                  |
| Upwards. |              |                  |              |                  |              |                  |              |                  |
|          | 13.          | 10.              | 6.           | 3.               | 3.           | 6.               |              | 1.               |

Rate 1.50  
Death Rate .0.47

PREVENTION OF BLINDNESS.

This is administered by the County Council.

(signed) I. PHILIPPINE NELIS,

Medical Officer of Health.

HOLYWELL RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL

The Manse,  
Mold.

22nd September, 1947.

